

What has come on the refutation of those who attack the Qur’ān and oppose the text of ‘Uthmān by adding to it or removing some of it

There is no disagreement in the Community between the Imāms of the *Sunna* that the Qur’ān is the name used to designate the Words of Allah which Muḥammad, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, brought as a miracle, as we have said. It is preserved in the hearts, recited on the tongues, written in the copies of the Qur’ān, and known by necessity in *sūras* and *āyats*. It is free of any addition or increase in words and letters. There is no need for a definition to define it nor number to contain it. Anyone who claims increase or decrease in it has declared the consensus false and such an action astonishes people. We read what Allah said about what the Messenger, may Allah bless him and grant him

peace, brought of the Qur'ān revealed to him, “Say: ‘*If both men and jinn banded together to produce the like of this Qur'ān, they could never produce anything like it, even if they backed each other up.*’” (17:88). That is an attempt to invalidate the Sign of the Messenger because if it had been something someone was capable of doing, it would not be a proof or a sign and therefore not a miracle.

Those who say that there is addition and decrease in the Qur'ān reject the Book of Allah and what the Messenger has brought. It is like someone who states that the obligatory prayers are fifty, one can marry nine women and that Allah obliged extra days to be fasted together with the days of Ramadān, and so forth. As all of that is refuted by consensus, so consensus about the Qur'ān is more binding and necessary.